

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2021

REMINDER: We have regathered for in person worship each Sunday at 10 am, and no reservations are needed. For those not ready to return, the livestream continues on our YouTube Channel

WHEN LIGHTENING STRIKES

You may have heard that during last week's storms one of our old, tall oak trees near the bell tower was struck by lightning. It was a good hit, stripping the trunk of its bark and zapping the bell tower electrical wiring. A good reminder that standing under trees in a thunderstorm is never a good idea!

There is another tree nearby that has much deadwood and its limbs hang over our neighbor's home. A large branch has already fallen and damaged their tile roof. Wanting to be a good neighbor, we had already begun the process of getting quotes to remove this tree when lightning struck the second tree. Most of us know the expense of tree removal, and that this expense is not usually included in our budget.

After announcing this need on Sunday, we have been amazed at your generosity! Gifts for this work have already covered about one sixth of the expense - thank you!

If you are able to donate toward this work, please make checks payable to Christ and Grace with trees in the memo line. Together we can accomplish so much.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH AT CHRIST AND GRACE

Whether or not you celebrate Christmas in July, it's time to think about Christmas!

Christ and Grace has for years supported a ministry of assisting local families with food and gifts who would not otherwise be able to provide Christmas for their children.

If this ministry is one that brings you joy, please consider how you might use your gifts to organize this Christmas outreach in our community. In the past we have worked with the Angel Tree ministry and that is still a great option, if we have someone in place to lead it so that we can register our church with Angel Tree by the September 1 deadline.

Angel Tree provides gifts and gift cards to the children of incarcerated parents, keeping these struggling families connected as we share God's love and abundance with them. This option is easy to facilitate.

If you can lead this effort or have other ideas about ways that Christ and Grace can share the love of God and the hope of Christmas with those in need, please contact Debbie Newman (804-691-8153) or Robin Teasley (804-733-7202). To learn more about Angel Tree contact Laura Nelson, our local Angel Tree contact (1-800-55-ANGEL) or visit the website at www.prisonfellowship.org.

PRAYER LIST

We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying. Especially we pray for James Christiansen, Thomas Clark, Shannon Farthing, Melba Felty, Kathy Hackett, Rod Hale, Heydon Lewis, Shelley Richardson, Mark Sheffield, Mary Villeponteaux, David and Wyatt.

To add someone to our prayer list, please contact the church office at 733-7202. We will keep names on the list about a month so please contact us if they need to remain longer.

To send a note of encouragement to parishioners on the Prayer List, please go to www.christandgrace.org and under "About Us" you will find the online directory. Contact the church office at 733-7202 for log in password or additional assistance.

HOLY COMMUNION

Our service of Holy Communion is held in person and live-streamed each Sunday at 10 AM on our YouTube channel.

Please call the church office at 804-733-7202 or email Robin at rteasley@christandgrace.org if you would like a home visit with communion.

LEMONADE OUT OF LEMONS

It's been a lemon of a year - time to make lemonade!

Join us for lemonade and cookies in Lackey Hall after the 10 AM service.

All who are comfortable returning are welcome.

Please allow safe distancing and we recommend that you stay for a short time.

Masks are optional for the fully vaccinated.

Volunteers needed to serve - contact Lee Boisseau.

THE COLLECT

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. **Amen.**

Psalm 78:23-29

Attendite, popule

- 23 So he commanded the clouds above *
and opened the doors of heaven.
- 24 He rained down manna upon them to eat *
and gave them grain from heaven.
- 25 So mortals ate the bread of angels; *
he provided for them food enough.
- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens *
and led out the south wind by his might.
- 27 He rained down flesh upon them like dust *
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.
- 28 He let it fall in the midst of their camp *
and round about their dwellings.
- 29 So they ate and were well filled, *
for he gave them what they craved.

John 6:24-35

The next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."